UNITED
NATIONS

DP

Governing Council
of the
United Nations
Development Programme

Distr.
GENERAL

DP/1991/67
7 June 1991
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH/RUSSIAN

Thirty-eighth session
3-21 June 1991, New York
Agenda item 11

OTHER MATTERS

Note by the President of the Governing Council

The attached letter dated 4 June 1991 from the head of the delegation of the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic was addressed to the President of the Governing Council. In accordance with the request therein contained, the letter is being circulated as a document of the Governing Council.

Annex

[Original: Russian]

LETTER DATED 4 JUNE 1991 FROM THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE BYELORUSSIAN SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLIC ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL

I have the honour to request you to circulate the attached letter from the Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Byelorussian SSR, Mr. V. Kebich, addressed to the Administrator of UNDP as an official document of the thirty-eighth session of the UNDP Governing Council, under agenda item 11.

(Signed) S. LING
Head of the Delegation of
the Byelorussian SSR

Appendix

[Original: Russian]

LETTER DATED 23 MAY 1991 FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS OF THE BYELORUSSIAN SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLIC ADDRESSED TO THE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

The accident that took place on 26 April 1986 at the Chernobyl nuclear power station was the most serious in modern history, and has proved to be a major disaster for the Byelorussian people.

With the lapse of time we are becoming increasingly aware of the catastrophic nature of the Chernobyl tragedy and the unprecedented scale of its consequences. More than 70 per cent of the fallout descended in Byelorussia, 22.4 per cent of its territory was contaminated by radionuclides and 2.2 million people (one fifth of the Republic's population) were in the zone of long-term exposure to anthropogenic radiation. As a result of the accident Byelorussia suffered serious economic damage, amounting in all to more than 100 billion roubles or more than 10 current annual budgets of the Republic.

The disaster is of enormous dimensions, and after five years it is becoming obvious that joint efforts on the part of the international community are needed in order to overcome the consequences of the accident. We appreciate the international support and assistance extended to our Republic and see it as a manifestation of humanism and solidarity with the Byelorussian people which suffered most from the Chernobyl catastrophe.

The Byelorussian SSR highly appreciates General Assembly resolution 45/190 on "International cooperation to address and mitigate the consequences of the accident at the Chernobyl nuclear power plant" and notes with satisfaction the measures taken by the United Nations Organization to study, mitigate and minimize the radiological, environmental, socio-economic and other consequences of the disaster at Chernobyl.

In pursuance of the above resolution efforts have begun to develop a programme for coordinating the activities to be carried out by United Nations organs, organizations and programmes. We are convinced that these efforts cannot be successful without the participation of the United Nations Development Programme.

In view of the above I request that the Council should consider the provision of technical and other specialized assistance to the Byelorussian SSR, bearing in mind the unprecedented nature of the disaster and the emergency situation which has developed in the Republic as a result of the long-term impact of radiation on the life and health of its population.

I am sure that, as the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme, you will understand and support this request.

(Signed) V. KEBICH
Chairman
of the Council of Ministers
of the Byelorussian SSR

UNITED
NATIONS

DP

Governing Council
of the
United Nations
Development Programme

Distr.
GENERAL

DP/1991/68
7 June 1991

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Thirty-eighth session
New York, 3-21 June 1991
Agenda item 2

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ADMINISTRATOR FOR 1990 AND PROGRAMME-LEVEL ACTIVITIES

Views of the organizations of the United Nations development system and of the High-level Committee on the Review of Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries on the report of the Group of Governmental Experts on the rules, regulations and procedures of the organizations of the United Nations development system concerning TCDC

Note by the Administrator

1. In response to Governing Council decision 90/43 of 20 June 1990, the Administrator will make available to the Council at its current session his report containing the views of the organizations of the United Nations development system on the report and recommendations of the Group of Governmental Experts on the rules, regulations and procedures of the organizations concerning technical cooperation among developing countries (TCDC) (TCDC/7/10 and Add.1).

2. The report of the Group of Governmental Experts has been reviewed by the High-level Committee on the Review of Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries at its seventh session, which concluded on 6 June 1991. The High-level Committee adopted a decision on this specific subject (see TCDC/7/L.16 (Part II)) and recommended a methodology for developing, under the auspices of the Administrative Committee on Coordination, common guidelines for the review of policies and procedures in the organizations concerning TCDC.

3. The attention of the Governing Council is drawn to paragraph 29 of the report of the Administrator of UNDP (TCDC/7/10), which contains the Administrator's conclusions.

91-18597 2614b (E)